

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1           1.    A method of controlling the flow of  
2   information across links between senders and  
3   receivers, said method comprising:

4                sending a request from a sender to a  
5   receiver via a link;

6                forwarding a data request indication from  
7   said receiver to said sender via said link in  
8   response to said request, said data request  
9   indication indicating that said receiver is  
10   prepared to receive further information from  
11   said sender;

12               providing, by said sender, in response to  
13   said data request indication, said further  
14   information; and

15               wherein said link is being used as a  
16   channel in that the link is not stopped while  
17   said receiver is preparing for said further  
18   information.

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1           2.    A method of controlling the flow of  
2   information across links between senders and  
3   receivers, said method comprising:

4                   including in a packet a sequence number  
5           usable in maintaining delivery order of said  
6           packet, said packet having no memory address and  
7           requiring no explicit individual response;

8                   sending said packet from a sender to a  
9           receiver across a link; and

10                   using said sequence number to determine if  
11           said packet is in proper order for processing by  
12           said receiver.

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